

"He was very wise, very understanding, very optimistic . . . just an amazing person," his daughter said Friday. He had a quick grasp of difficult concepts "but was always down to earth . . . He always respected people . . . regardless of their station in life."

In his business achievements, Mr. Barthwell was both a trendsetter and typical member in Detroit's growth from the 1930s on. As well, he was a model for what is now a broadly established black middle class, serving for a time as president of the Booker T. Washington Business Association in Detroit.

He was a delegate to the Michigan Constitutional Convention in 1962, elected without party affiliation and serving on the judiciary and education committees. He was a life member of Detroit Branch, NAACP, and a charter member of the Alpha Beta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi at WSU.

In 1998, Mr. Barthwell was named by the Detroit Urban League as a Distinguished Warrior.

A meaningful moment was being invited to give a black history lecture at his grandson's exclusive prep school, the Lovett School in Atlanta. There, he spoke to an audience of wealthy white people. In the back of his mind were the racial humiliations of his Georgia childhood. He said later the Atlanta experience was a very rewarding interaction.

He loved his family deeply, his daughter and son said, though always mindful of the value of work.

His wedding day was a prime example. He and his wife, Gladys, were married about 11 p.m. Christmas Day in 1936, after a full day at the store.

As his son recalled, laughingly, if you woke up ill, Mr. Barthwell would say: "Get up and go to work. You'll feel better as the day goes on."

The younger Barthwell said his father was a man of "high integrity, high character. To say he was unpretentious is an understatement. . . . He was very egalitarian; a great father."

His grandson, Walter Evans, said "he was always very loving, very interested in what I was doing," and as well kept up with what was going on in the world, right to the end.

Perpetually a committed Detroit, Mr. Barthwell nonetheless saw national chain stores and shopping malls edge out smaller city businesses. The construction of I-75 knocked out the core of a busy commercial area of Detroit. He began closing his stores, selling the last one in 1987.

He lived in Detroit's Boston-Edison neighborhood. An avid bridge player, he was an active member of the Plymouth United Church of Christ in Detroit.

The funeral will be at his church, 600 E. Warren, at 11 a.m. Thursday. A family hour is scheduled at 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Thompson Funeral Home, 15443 Greenfield, Detroit.

Memorials are requested to the Sidney Barthwell Scholarship Fund at the WSU College of Pharmacy and Health Services, 259 Mack Ave., Detroit 48201.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF DANICA PATRICK AT THIS YEAR'S INDIANAPOLIS 500

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beloit, Wisconsin native Danica Pat-

rick for her outstanding achievement at this year's Indianapolis 500. Anyone who watched the race knows that her performance this past May was simply remarkable.

Even before the green flag dropped, Danica amazed the racing world by qualifying in the fourth position, marking the highest beginning position for a woman in the Indianapolis 500's history. When the race started, fans across the country watched as Danica advanced as high as third place. At lap 80, Danica's engine stalled, causing her to drop back to 16th place. It looked like the race was over for her, but she fought back. As the race sped to its end, Danica charged through the field, advanced place after place, and eventually led the race for a total of 19 laps. Rather than play it safe, Danica gunned it out for the win by using all the fuel she had instead of taking a pit stop. As the checkered flag waived, Danica's efforts came up just short as she finished fourth—the highest finish ever for a woman. While Danica did not win this year's Indy 500, her performance won her this year's Rookie of the Year award and helped her capture the attention of racing fans around the world.

Danica's philosophy is that "life is what you make of it," and she says she prepares for races by visualizing herself making laps around the track. She gives her work her full attention, and it is clear that her dedication is strong and her perseverance fierce. I join Wisconsin in applauding Danica for her performance at this year's Indianapolis 500 and for her hard work and dedication in becoming one of Formula 1 Racing's most exciting drivers. I cannot wait to see Danica's future electrifying races and I wish her the best of luck.

Congratulations to you, Danica.

HONORING EARL ALFORD

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, today in Amite County, Earl Alford is retiring after 39 years with the Mississippi Forestry Commission—all of them in Amite County. He is the longest serving county forester in the history of the commission. He has a great knowledge of Mississippi and Mississippi trees and has been honored and praised by friends, neighbors and colleagues in Southwest Mississippi.

He is one of our great tree farmers who possesses not only an understanding of the operations of the timber business, but also a love for the land. He is a conservationist who wants to balance timber and the environment so we can produce the wood our industries need while protecting the land that gives birth to these forests. His service to the community includes managing the school system's 16th Section timber land of which he has managed the harvest of, replanting of, growth of, and harvest of once again.

I would like to share with the House some of the comments on Earl Alford recorded recently in McComb's Enterprise-Journal newspaper.

"He birthed the association . . . If it wasn't for him I don't think it would still be operating."—Bryant Barron, president of the Southwest Mississippi Forestry Association.

"He's forgotten more than most of us will ever know about forestry. Humble, common as peas, but a very learned man."—James Copeland, U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Amite County School Board.

"The Mississippi Forestry Commission and the people of Amite County are going to lose tremendously because we're not going to have him on the job every day."—Richard Hay, Extension Service.

"He's never asked us to do anything he wouldn't do—except boot up a computer."—Charlotte Reynolds, Earl's secretary.

"Having known him on a professional level, I've learned what a highly qualified forester he is, what a great people person he is, what a great asset he is to Amite County."—Lee Wilson, U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Earl was born in Walthall County into a logging and farming family, the grandson of a tree farmer and sawmill operator. His father worked for the forestry commission and after school he would follow in the family legacy. He graduated from Salem High School, Southwest Mississippi Community College and finally Mississippi State University. In 1966 he went to work as the Mississippi Forestry Commission's Amite County forester; he retires today.

Mr. Speaker, Earl and his wife Pauline, a retired Extension Service home economist, have reared two children. Holly Alford is a sonographer at Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center. Mac Alford recently received a Ph.D in plant biology at Cornell University and has taken a position at the University of Southern Mississippi. He has served his family and community for many years and I am proud to take this time to honor him on this day of retirement. Though I know, his service to God and family and man will continue for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I was with President Bush at Ft. Bragg on Tuesday, June 28th. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: "nay" on roll No. 326, "nay" on roll No. 327, this vote was a procedural motion to provide the Congressional pay raise which I am against, "yea" on roll No. 328, "nay" on roll No. 329, "yea" on roll No. 330, "nay" on roll No. 331, "yea" on roll No. 332, "yea" on roll No. 333, "yea" on roll No. 334, and "nay" on roll No. 335.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, on June 22 and June 23, 2005, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission held a site visit and hearing in Grand Forks, North Dakota, at which I testified. Due to the schedule, I missed rollcall